Sample scenario:

A 56 year old man has been transferred from the medical ward to theatre for intubation due to respiratory failure secondary to COVID-19 pneumonitis. He has been accepted to ICU and will need to be intubated prior to admission.

He is receiving oxygen via a non-rebreathe mask with a 15L/min flow and has a SpO2 of 93%. He appears short of breath with a RR of 30 and is able to speak in short sentences. He is cardiovascularly stable and has a GCS of 15/15. He has been informed and consented to intubation and ICU admission.

The patient has IV access and the following monitoring: SpO2, non-invasive blood pressure, 3 lead ECG

Scenario set up:

Cold room:

- Equipment trolley for plan A intubation
- Equipment required for plan B intubation
- Drugs required for rapid sequence induction
- PPE donning station
- Intubation action cards present
- PPE donning action cards present

Hot room:

- Mannequin on theatre trolley with monitoring attached.
- Anaesthetic machine with 2 HME filters (one at proximal and one at distal end)
- PPE doffing station

Scenario steps:

- Run through scenario verbally in cold room and designation of roles to participants – 1 doctor for airway management, 1 doctor to administer induction drugs, 1 anaesthetic assistant to assist with airway management, 1 runner to assist with equipment from cold room
- 2. Check equipment prior to entering scenario.
- 3. Donning PPE with buddy
- 4. Enter room with equipment and communicate verbally with patient
- 5. Feel front of neck for cricothyroid membrane and mark with pen prior to induction
- 6. Adequate pre-oxygenation by airway flow of 5L/min for 5 min of 100% O2
- 7. Administering induction drugs
- 8. Turning off oxygen flow to the anaesthetic machine prior to removal of face mask
- 9. Intubation with video laryngoscope
- 10. Inflation of endotracheal tube cuff by anaesthetic assistant
- 11. Connection to the anaesthetic circuit and check for end tidal CO₂ to confirm tube position (following cuff inflation)
- 12. Tie endotracheal tube in with intensive care specific tube ties

13. Clamp endotracheal tube and turn off anaesthetic machine, disconnection of circuit to connect in-line suction device. Reconnect anaesthetic machine and recommence ventilation following removal of endotracheal tube clamp.

Break in scenario for participant and facilitator feedback.

- 14. Return to step 8 failed intubation with grade 3 view following use of video laryngoscopy.
- 15. Insert iGel and connect anaesthetic circuit and commence ventilation
- 16. Anaesthetic assistant to ask runner for 'plan B' airway equipment
- 17. Intubation of tracheal with ambuscope, railroad of aintree catheter over ambuscope through iGel.
- 18. Remove ambuscope and remove iGel whilst keeping aintree catheter in trachea.
- 19. Railroad endotracheal tube over aintree catheter. A macintosh laryngoscope may be required to use as 'tongue depressor'.
- 20. Return to step 9 of above scenario

End of scenario, time for participant and facilitator feedback.

Following scenario, practice scalpel cricothyroidotomy procedure on mannequin and watch RCoA video front of neck access video.

Learning objectives:

- Ensure adequate preparation prior to entering hot room
- Ensure PPE donned correctly using buddy system
- Adequate pre-oxygenation using two handed technique with good seal around the face
- Remember to turn oxygen flow off prior to intubation and every time anaesthetic circuit is broken
- Ensure endotracheal tube clamp is used whenever anaesthetic circuit is broken
- Clear and adequate communication required throughout, using active listening techniques
- Run through of plan B intubation
- Acknowledge that adequate airway examination and assessment may not be possible in this scenario

Scenario participants: 2x anaesthetic nurses/ODPs, 2x doctors (one designated airway management, one designated drugs and second intubator)

Facilitators: 2x consultant anaesthetists with MERIT 'train the trainers' training

Equipment and supplies:

- 'hot room' (theatre)
- 'cold room' (anaesthetic room)
- Monitoring as per AAGBI

- ETT with lubricant size 7 and 8
- PPE: FFP3 masks, surgical hats, visors, surgical gowns, surgical gloves
- Laryngoscopes: Macintosh 3 and 4 direct laryngoscopes, iView video laryngoscope
- Ambuscope
- Aintree intubating catheter
- iGel size 4 and 5
- Gum elastic bougie
- Surgical critothyroidotomy set